Vol. 2020, No 4

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc. Newsletter

Fall 2020

FINAL PRINT EDITION

You will notice the logo at the top of this page has changed. It is the logo used in the first Bayonet published by the Corps of Cadets in 1906.

The Bayonet has been continuously published in one form or another for 114 years.

It's sad to see it go. I hope you agree with me on this.

But folks, the sad truth is that our readership, all 1505 of you, have lost interest and apparently no longer care about the heritage and memory of your alma mater, Augusta Military Academy.

I don't pretend to know why. But I can plainly see the financial results of your drop in interest.

We currently only have four, yes you heard me, four, alumni who make regular monthly contributions to our Foundation. Thankfully, we have many alumni who make one-time contributions during the year, but even these are insufficient to keep the museum open, much less produce this Bayonet.

The past few years, using every trick in the book,

we have reduced the cost of printing and mailing this Bayonet four times a year out to the 1505 alumni on our mailing list to about \$14,000 per year. It was reported in the August email newsletter to cost \$22,000. That was a typo.

We can simply no longer afford to publish it.

With the lack of support from you, our alumni base, we are even trying to decide whether the time and effort to produce just an on-line edition is worth it.

So, the bottom line is this: unless we receive \$14,000 ear-marked for Bayonet costs between now and December 31, this WILL be the last printed edition of the Bayonet. **It's up to you.**

PS - I personally spend out of my own pocket about \$700 per year for the software I use to produce this publication. If we no longer publish, I will make that contribution to the museum operating fund in my effort to at least keep the museum open.

Forging ahead despite the challenges before us ... under the commanding leadership of Foundation Chairman **Doug Pennock**, '72, more has been accomplished in the last 6 months than in any other similar time period in our recent history.

Committees were formed in April, soon after the new Board of Directors were seated, feet were held to the fire, so to speak, and great progress has been made in many areas. Most of the Committee Chairmen have reports of their activities and progress in this edition.

Look throughout this edition for preliminary details of activities for our next reunion, scheduled for April 15-18, 2021 at the Blackburn Inn. This reunion will be like none other. Newly organized from the ground up, with more time spent on campus and more cadet experiences and memories at the forefront, this Reunion will be memorable.

1969 graduate, **Victor Gomez**, has spent close to 100 hours searching for and finding many AWOL Latin alumni, and tells me that many of them plan to attend our next reunion. Victor is also a frequent volunteer docent at the museum.

Museum curator and interim Director **Rich vanBreemen** has projects galore at the museum. He is a very busy man. A couple of these are highlighted in this edition.

I'm pleased to honor **Warren Fleming, '72,** with this edition's Spotlight article. Warren was instrumental in the desegragation of the corps of AMA cadets.

Cyrus McCue was teacher, mentor, administrator, and alumnus. You should enjoy learning more about this incredible man who helped transform us into men.

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc.

Summer 2020

Greetings fellow Alumni and friends,

The last few months have brought a series of eye-opening events to our attention. As I have stated several times in my previous letters, my strategy immediately after being elected as the Foundation Chairman, was to dive into and explore, investigate and analyze what the overall pulse of our organization is.

Over the past first four months of my role as Chairman and after many, many hours of interaction with the Museum staff and various key Board members and Alumni, we have found several serious issues and have developed plans to address them all in an expedient, collaborative and professional fashion. The issues revolved around various serious discrepancies in our bookkeeping, insurance and other day-to day administrative tasks. As soon as each inconsistency was discovered, we immediately intervened, and we initiated an action plan to mediate and restore the proper procedures and best practices to the business. All the necessary remedial actions are now in place, and I expect that within the next 30 days, The AMA Museum corporate organization will be totally buttoned up and will once again be able operate as a sound business.

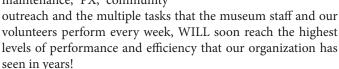
My grasp of all things AMA Foundation Inc., is now complete enough to move forward with a new comprehensive strategy based on sound business practices. We are extremely fortunate to have a group of gentlemen on the Board today, whose mere presence generates the perfect recipe and synergy needed to keep our organization out of the malaise we have coasted into. This team has made it possible to assure we get back on track in short order!

Changes have occurred in our Museum Management leadership and as of August 9, 2020, we have a new (interim) Museum Administrator/Collections Curator in the person of Rich vanBreemen. Rich will be assisted by Chris Correa and Ainsley Bloomfield, our new Charleston Intern. Ainsley's salary will be paid for with moneys drawn from the generous endowment John Botcheller's Aunt, Helen Charleston gifted us in 2018.

Our new office hours will be Tuesday to Friday from 10:00am

to 4:00pm. The museum will be open to visitors, Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. These changes in operating hours seem minor, but in reality, we will be providing the same service to our Alumni and visitors, only with about 20 less man hours expended per week!

Our customer service, bookkeeping, house maintenance, PX, community





That is my commitment to everyone!

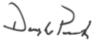
I accepted the responsibility of leading our organization with trepidation, a natural emotion one would have when entering an unknown situation.

I can now say to all of you, that the principle emotion I feel towards the future of our organization is "tremendous energy and cautious optimism!"

We still have work to do, but I am eager to continue with the tasks entrusted in me and hope that all of you will continue to support us as we create a vision for AMA bolstered by a forward-looking business plan that will sustain us long into the future.

Team effort!

Douglas W. Pennock Chairman AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.





Volume 2020, Number 3

Newsletter of the Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc. PO BOX 100 Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100

Editor: B.J. d'Orsay, '70

The Bayonet is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy. Notice of changes of address should be sent to the AMA Museum, PO BOX 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100 or by email to Museum@AMAalumni.org

Please provide us with your 9-digit zip code! The Bayonet welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi and preferably in TIFF format. Printed color photos are also welcome.

Mail or email information to:

B.J. d'Orsay 4206 38th Street Lubbock, TX 79413-2512 bj.dorsay@gmail.com Phone 806-790-7092

email: Bayonet@AMAalumni.org

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Organizational Chart AMA alumni have two organizations which represent the interests of our school and its matchless legacy. Augusta Military Academy **Augusta Military Academy** Alumni Foundation, Inc. Alumni Association, Inc. Governed by a Board of Directors responsible for Governed by a Board of Directors who plan and the operation of the AMA Museum, publication execute the annual alumni reunion, and the of the newsletter, The Bayonet, and operation of the Gift Shoppe located within the management of several scholarship programs. Museum. **Board of Directors Board of Directors** Museum Director Reunion PΧ **Bayonet** Funded Staff Volunteers Scholarships

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and are safe and sound. We are aware that 2020 was a year with a lot of confusion. Historically it marks the first year since 1970 that we have failed to have a reunion. Our Reunion 2021 will honor the 50th Anniversary for 1970 and 1971 classes. We will have special recognition for '60, '61, '50, and '51 alumni also.

Our reunion headquarters will be the Blackburn Inn, 301 Greenville Avenue, Staunton, Virginia 24401. Each individual must contact the front desk to make reservations by calling (540) 712-0601 or visit the website at www.blackburn-inn.com and use the following code: AMA2021. Reservations **must** be made by the block out date of March 15, 2021 in order to receive the discount of \$99.00 plus tax. Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card for one-night deposit. This rate will be honored for early rate check out and to attend meeting prior to RU21. Furthermore, this inn in rated at 4.7 out of five stars.

You can read our preliminary plans for activities and our schedule for Reunion 2021 in this edition of the Bayonet. We are placing more time to be on campus. We have left Thursday for personal time with friends along with an open bar for the night.

One other thing that we are doing is asking for sponsors for

events. This year's reunion meals and event will cost you less than in the past. Two former Presidents, Garry Granger and Jorge Rovirosa, have provided assistance in all these endeavors.

During the last 12 months we have lost a lot of great people. Some of

these folks are known better than others. If you are aware of anyone that has passed, please contact the museum and speak with Rich vanBreemen or contact Gordon Metz, our chaplain. It would be great if you have an obituary and a note describing the deceased's time at AMA.

In closing, we are asking that everyone provide something nice for the Silent Auction this reunion. And don't forget to support your museum financially as well as volunteer hours.

Regards,

Stephen G. Trent

Save the Date: April 15-17, 2021 Reunion 2021

AMA PX Great Holiday gifts are available NOW online at our online PX.

These and many more items can be seen and ordered directly by going to **shop.AMAalumni.org** or calling the museum at 540-248-3007



Roller Rifle Cigar Tray with Coin - \$45



AMA Coffee Mug - \$4.99



Mounted Coins 8.5" x 6.4" - \$24.99



AMA Patch - \$7.50



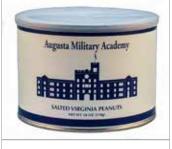




AMA Wine Glasses (2) - \$28.99



AMA "Old Fashioned" Glasses (2) - \$25.99



AMA Virginia Diner Peanuts 18 oz. - \$11.50

It's a small World

By Rich vanBreemen

The life of a non-profit Museum Director is not as glamorous as you may think. It's not just cocktail parties and rubbing elbows with high profile debutantes – arguably, that is the best part of the job. All kidding aside, working with the museum and the alumni has been a very rewarding and oft times challenging job.

One of my duties includes cataloging and exhibiting school artifacts in the museum. It's a bit like being Indiana Jones when it comes to discovery and presentation. The information gathered around each object is conveyed to the public through story and written placards. As my predecessor did, we do our best to make it interesting and related to the item or subject. Sometimes, this can be a bit wordy, but we put our heart and soul into it. We've expanded on this concept by including QR codes for even more detail (look at EXHIBITS on our web page).

Imagine our dismay, when while giving a tour, people take one look at our painstakingly developed placard, yawn and move on before they have read one sentence! The sad truth, and irony of a museum about a school, is that **PEOPLE DON'T LIKE TO READ.** We live in a world consumed with flashy videos, sound bites, and headline news. If people have to read more than 10 words (this article is an exception of course), they simply tune out.

You go to any museum in the country and you will find dioramas, large and small. People are attracted to scale models for some reason. This was on our minds when B.J. and I came up with the idea of constructing a scale model of the campus, circa late 1960's. People would be able to walk up and visualize what things might have looked like during formation and get a better idea of the scope of the school.

Our museum has limited floor space, but we are lucky to have



a number of high-quality display cabinets. We currently have one earmarked to house the diorama of the AMA campus.

Making use of technology, both old and new, we plan to reconstruct the upper side of the campus. Google earth gives us a good bird's eye view of the grounds and from there we were able to extrapolate the scale to fit in the cabinet.

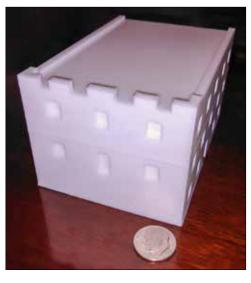
Roughly 1:160th which happens to equate to N Scale in model railroading (B.J.'s hobby). We will be using foam board and time tested model railroading scenery techniques to create the basic landscape within the display cabinet to include part

of "the Bowl" and parade grounds.

I have enlisted the help of a young man (Matt C.) with an interest in architecture and CAD programming. He is helping us develop a 3D rendering of the various buildings. The next step is to make the buildings to scale on a 3D printer.

What would Col. Hoover think of that??? Believe me when I say, a lot of it looks like witchcraft!

Davis Hall is completed; DEAN's CASTLE is under development. To give you an idea of where we are going, here is a 1:160th scale model of DAVIS



hall (the dime in front is to reference the scale).

The buildings only represent a part of the challenge.

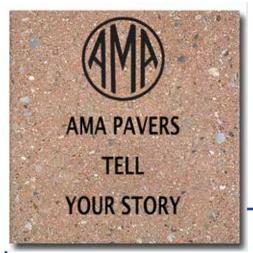
Trying to depict the entire Corps in formation on the black top is our goal which means coming up with 450+ tiny cadets. Each one will measure roughly 12mm in height – less than



 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Coming off the 3d printer, they look like little blobs which means each one will have to be HAND PAINTED. The photo above was our initial draft run.

Overall, this will be both a fun and rewarding project. Visitors will be able to "see" the Corps in its hay day and better appreciate the scope of the campus. It will add to our guided tours and we hope encourage a lot more questions from our guests about the campus. Our goal is to have the landscape done by the next board meeting in October so they can see it. By reunion 2021, the diorama should be completed.

This is being done on a shoestring budget and personal donations of time and energy so the foundation doesn't have to bear any of the cost. However, that being said if any alumni out there are artists with a steady hand or modelers willing to pitch in – you know where to find me. Stay tuned for future progress reports as we "rebuild AMA"!



Paver Order Form

Options:

4" x 8" \sim 3 lines of 20 characters each - \$50

8" x 8" \sim 6 lines of 20 characters each - \$100

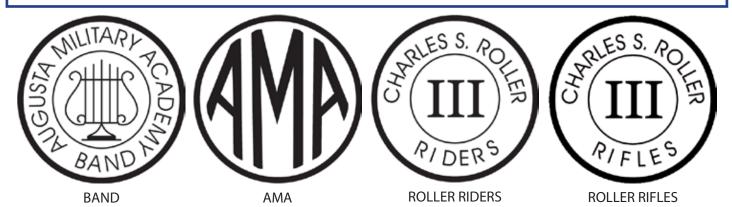
8" x 8" \sim 3-6 lines of 20 characters plus graphic - \$225

*number of lines depends on size of graphic

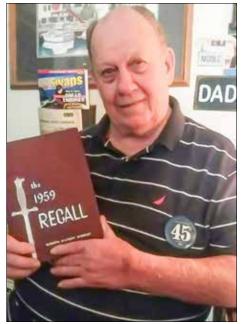
Left: example of 8 x 8 with graphic and three lines of text.

Fill in the blanks below. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!** Only one paver per order form. Print additional copies for additional pavers. When you buy a paver you SUPPORT AMA'S ALLIMNI FOUNDATION

Your Name :		paver, you SUPPORT AMA'S	ALUMNI FOUNDATION. Class, if any:
Address:		City, State, Zip:	
Phone: ()_	En	nail:	
WHAT SIZE PAV	ER DO YOU WANT	7?4" x 8" - \$50 8" x 8" - \$100	
Punctuation spaces count	n marks and as characters!	0 1	_ top or bottom
Please PRINT bel	ow what you want on	* contact museum for custom size and n your engraved brick:	d placement of graphic, additional charges may apply
	Line 1:		
	Line 2:	. — — — — — — —	- — — — — — —
	Line 3:		- — — — — — —
	Line 4:		
	Line 5:		
	Line 6:		
	Include check of OR call the must OR email form to m	AMA Museum, PO BOX 100, FO or money order made payable to seum at (540) 248-3007 with yo useum@AMAalumni.org, then e museum to place your paver o	o AMA Alumni Foundation ur credit card information call with payment information



A Birthday Surprise!





Allen Fuller, '59, was surprised by his wife Koula on his 77th birthday with a 1959 RECALL and a framed tribute to his time at AMA. Koula spent well over a month gathering these necessary items from the AMA PX, eBay, and B.J. d'Orsay. "When we visited there a few years ago, he found his room on the first floor around the right corner of the building. He absolutely loved and embraced his AMA suite of gifts."

ALL OARS IN! Fundraising Committee Report

Gary Morrison, '81, FMS

The fundraising committee has been busy working on three projects. The first is the continuing *support of the museum* and its annual expenses. The second and third projects are the establishment of a *Legacy Fund* to support the continued operation of a museum and learning center after all AMA alums have passed. We are using several approaches.

All Oars In – We are reminding alumni and friends of the school that the continued operation of the school is reliant on the collective efforts of all to give and keep the momentum going. We are seeing increased numbers but need more. The easiest way to do this is through small monthly donations at https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=fijkqAd2c13Sh6exmbUBedHkVQJ1EsMb https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=fijkqAd2c13Sh6exmbUBedHkVQJ1EsMb Wfa7nsGX5DkN1ybyn0hDXgesJ61IX CSv4QW&country.x=US&locale.x=US .

Please make sure that your oar is in the water. If you do not wish to use PayPal, remember to send in your monthly check. Also, remind your friends and classmates to row and row hard. The results will be worth it!

Grants – The committee has interviewed a very successful and highly recommended freelance grant writer. This grant writer has a history of success acquiring public and private monies for organizations like ours. We will soon be signing a contract and will begin working on finding and acquiring grant money for our daily operating expenses and afterwards for the Legacy fund. We are very optimistic that she can get the job done. She is also within our budget.

Public Funding – We have enlisted the assistance of a man very familiar to the AMA family, **Bud Oakey**, '70, to find and even solicit funding via the public domain. Within a day of our first meeting, Bud had met with a few political figures and other influencers and come up with a plan. Following his guidance, we are currently reaching out to local schools and organizations to find ways that the Museum and Alumni association can serve the community. This is the first essential step to requesting and eventually receiving public funds, and the outreach has already begun.

Special thanks go out to the committee members **Ed Rogerville, '75, Warren Fleming, '72,** and **Tom Del Valle, '72,** as well as non-committee members **John Arthur, '75,** and **Bud Oakey, '70,** for their time hard work and commitment. We have every reason to believe that this new, aggressive approach will pay dividends. With your continued support we will build something that outlives us all and will continue the legacy and lessons of Augusta Military Academy well beyond our time on earth.

I am certain that Colonel Roller is looking down on all of his boys with great pride.

Remember... ALL OARS IN!



Un cordial saludo a todos,

Por Primera vez en nuestra historia, el presidente de la Fundación de ex alumnos que gobierna la asociación de ex-alumnos de A.M.A. es caribeño, nacido, criado y actualmente viviendo en Puerto Rico.

Douglas Pennock, AMA'72 me ha dado la tarea de identificar y comunicarme con todos los ex alumnos Latinos para invitarlos a nuestra próxima reunión en abril/2021. ¡Cadetes latinos siempre fueron una parte clave de el estudiantado de AMA, y Douglas desea una gran participación de nuestro sector en su primera reunión de exalumnos como presidente de la Fundación para abril del 2021!

Este es el momento ideal para regresar a Fort Defiance y darle un fuerte abrazo a esos hermanos con quienes crecimos. ¡Nos estamos poniendo menos joven, así que no lo dejes para otro año!...

Aunque he logrado comunicarme con varios de los Cadetes latinos, (empecé mi búsqueda con la clase del 1984) ya estoy trabajando con el Recall del 1973, y pienso buscar hasta el Recall del 1950. Como se pueden imaginar, la mayoría de la información en nuestro records esta obsoleta. Así que les voy a agradecer que por favor me ayuden con sus correos electrónicos, dirección residencial y/o números de teléfonos suyos y de sus amigos ex

alumnos con quien tienen contacto.

Cualquier pregunta, se pueden comunicar conmigo a: victorgomez7@gmail.com o al correo electrónico de Doug Pennock: chairman.amafoundation@amaalumni.org

Hasta este momento, los muchachos que me han indicado que piensan venir son:

Juan Castañeda '82 Guatemala
Miguel Castañeda '82 Guatemala
Carlos Bonnelly '81 República Dominicana
Ricardo Pichardo '81 República Dominicana
Luis Isaza '81 Colombia
Santiago González '80 República Dominicana
Fernando Salaverria '79 El Salvador
Adolfo Solorzano '78 Florida
Félix Montes '75 Guatemala
Alberto Sotomayor '74 Nicaragua
Máximo Rodríguez '73 Guatemala
Ricardo Prado '73 Guatemala
Luis Marien '73 Denver, Colorado
Manuel Balbis, '53, Miami, Florida

¡Te esperamos!

Atentamente,

Víctor Rafael Gómez Espaillat AMA '69

Seven new paver bricks have been added along the walkways in front of the museum since our Summer Bayonet came out. A portion of each brick's cost goes towards maintaining our museum. You can leave your message by ordering a brick today.

An order form can be found in this Bayonet.

A collection of approximately 1,600 books appraised at a value of \$16,000 covering the history of the Revolutionary war, the Civil War, and Virginia has been generously donated to our museum. They will be kept in our climate-controlled storage unit until such time that we can create a historical research facility to our museum.



Col John John Dekle's son, **Hunt**, and great grandson, **Ryan** visited the AMA Museum today (the son reads the Bayonet online).

Greetings,

For the first time in our organization's history, the Chairman of the AMA Alumni Foundation is a Caribbean native. Born, raised and still a resident of Puerto Rico and a Spanish speaker.

Douglas Pennock AMA'72 has charged me with the task of finding and reaching out to all Latin Alumni, and to urge you to attend the AMA Alumni weekend in April of 2021. Doug would be thrilled with a large Latin Alumni contingent at what will be his first official reunion as Chairman of the AMA Foundation!

This is the perfect time to return to "The Valley" to share hugs and stories with all of your old AMA brothers whom you grew up with. We are not getting any younger, so do not put it off another year!

I have been able to identify and contact many Latin Cadets, (I began my search in the 1984 Recall) and am currently working on the 1973 Recall. I will finalize my search with the 1950 Recall. As you can all imagine, the information, I have found is mostly outdated or the museum records are outdated. I would really appreciate it if anyone could help me with identification of your old AMA buddies and provide me with a current e-mail address, home address and phone number.

For any questions you may want to contact me at: victorgomez7@gmail.com or with Douglas Pennock at: chairman.amafoundation@amaalumni.org

As of this moment, the following guys have indicated to me their intention of attending this year's Alumni Reunion:

Juan Castañeda '82 Guatemala
Miguel Castañeda '82 Guatemala
Carlos Bonnelly '81 Dominican Republic
Ricardo Pichardo '81 Dominican Republic
Luis Isaza '81 Colombia
Santiago González '80 Dominican Republic
Fernando Salaverria '79 El Salvador
Adolfo Solorzano '78 Florida
Félix Montes '75 Guatemala
Alberto Sotomayor '74 Nicaragua
Máximo Rodríguez '73 Guatemala
Ricardo Prado '73 Guatemala
Luis Marien '73 Denver, Colorado
Manuel Balbis '53 Miami, Florida

We look forward to seeing everyone at the April 2021 reunion!

Cordially,

Victor Rafael Gomez Espaillat AMA '69



Reunion 2021

Major Changes Planned for Reunion 2021 New headquarter Hotel, New events, New venues

For the first time in the history of our organization a planned reunion event (R2020) had to be canceled this past April due to COVID19. Your AMA Reunion Committee took that opportunity to carefully review past Reunion events and venues and consider many suggestions being voiced by our alumni. Everyone felt it was time shake things up resulting in some significant changes to our reunions going forward. First we eliminated any official event on Thursday, however early registration and hospitality will be available for those arriving on Thursday. Although there are some important and required events that will remain, the Committee has been working to allow for more fellowship opportunities at the location where our memories were made....our AMA campus. Hospitality AMA Breakfast Soupy at Hoover

R2021 Hotel Headquarters:
The Blackburn Inn & Conference Center
301 Greenville Ave
Staunton, VA 24401
540-712-0601
guestservices@blackburn-inn.com
SPECIAL RATE \$99.00 PLUS TAX YOU MUST PROVIDE/
USE SPECIAL PRICING CODE OF: "AMA21"
https://blackburn-inn.com

Hall; Meetings in the Big Room and Texas Style BBQ are planned. For the first time the "Ladies of AMA" will hold at our campus a Fun Art event for all ladies that attend R2021. Furthermore the Committee has been for years considering a change in our hotel headquarters and for this Reunion we have selected the Blackburn Inn, in Staunton, VA as the R2021 alumni headquarter venue. In an effort to offset some of the cost of a better quality of food and drink we will be soliciting sponsorship opportunities for some of the events. Due to a very limited number of rooms and contractual obligations it is imperative that you make your hotel room reservations no later than March 14, 2021 and provide them with special pricing event code AMA21 in order to get a nightly rate of \$99.00 plus tax.

This is a boutique type of hotel with a limited number of rooms. We have been able to secure just a few rooms at this special rate and once they are gone, they are gone. March 14, 2021 is the deadline but we do not anticipate any rooms being available by then, so to play it safe, make your reservations before years end. Alumni fully booked all the available rooms for R2020 before it was canceled due to COVID19 so be aware.

All of us in the Reunion Committee look forward to seeing all of you and especially the honor classes including AMA Class of 1970 now celebrating their 51st and 1971 celebrating their 50th.



2021 Reunion Itinerary/Schedule

Below is a preliminary schedule, and is subject to change as the reunion gets closer.

Thursday, 4/15/21

 1600-2000 Hours Early Registration and Hospitality Room open Blackburn Inn

Friday, 4/16/21

Casual Day

- 0730 1630 Registration AMA gymnasium
- 0800 1000 Hospitality Soupy call at Hoover Hall serving AMA Breakfast: Bacon sandwiches, Motor Oil Coffee, over toasted toast, Onion tasting Milk.
- 0900 1600 Off-campus activities:
 - Historical Tour- President James
 Madison's Home "Montpelier". Departing
 Main Barracks Blacktop Area.
 - Golf Outing at Ingleside...on your own. Find "Walter" Tee Time TBA
 - **Sporting Clays** at Flying Rabbit (Crawford, VA @ 20 miles)
- 0900 1600 Silent Auction Raffle and Tower of Power sale at AMA Gymnasium
- 1200 1330 Hospitality Soupy call Hot Dogs and Burgers cookout at Hoover Hall
- 1400 1530 Ladies of AMA event TBA
- 1400 1500 Sporting event fundraiser weather permitting, Front Field, details TBA
- 1730 1830 Welcome and Hospitality location TBA
- 1800 2200 Silent Auction continues
- 1830 1945 Texas Style BBQ and Fundraiser location TBA
- 1945 2200 GROG Ceremony honoring AMA Faculty location TBA

Several of our alumni sat for video interviews during the 2017 reunion. Mess hall cuisine was often discussed during these interviews.

View them all at https://amaalumni.org/ama-videos/

Saturday, 4/17/21

Formal Day, please dress appropriately

- 0730 1300 Registration open AMA Gymnasium
- 0730 0815 Hospitality Soupy AMA breakfast at Hoover Hall; Pastries, day old doughnuts, AMA coffee
- 0830 0900 AMA Alumni General Membership Meeting at the Big Room
- **0945 1045** Foundation Board Meeting at the Big Room
- 1115 1230 Founder's Day Ceremony, Old Stone Church Cemetery.
- 1300 1430 AMA Luncheon and program AMA Gymnasium
- 1500 1700 Silent Auction open at Gymnasium
- 1800 1900 Cash Bar Blackburn Inn
- 1915 2045 Banquet and Program at Blackburn Inn
- 1800 2100 Silent Auction at Blackburn Inn
- 2100 2300 Hospitality Suite open at Blackburn Inn



Walter ... Phone home

Our golf trophy has gone missing.

If you know the whereabouts of Walter, please contact the museum to make arrangements to return him home.

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop at smile.amazon.com and a portion of your purchase comes back to our Museum. It cost you nothing, it costs US nothing, But you must start out at SMILE.amazon.com. You can select which charity to support when you first go there. Choose Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation Inc Easy Money!



Bud Oakey, '70, received command of the Virginia Wing, Civil Air Patrol, VA-999 Legislative Squadron. The Civil Air Patrol, an all volunteer force, is the Auxiliary of the United States Air Force and has responsibility for air and ground support in emergency response, aerospace education and cadet programs.

The VA-999 is responsible for coordinating and communicating CAP activities with Members of the Virginia General Assembly, the Office of the Governor and agencies of Virginia Government. Very proud to have Daphne at the Change of Command along with two buddies, LTC Shawn Talmadge and BG Jeff Ryan

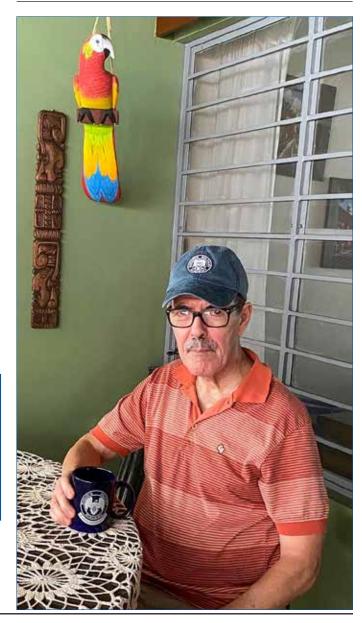
You are encouraged to purchase a Paver Brick to be placed near the walkways in front of the museum. Thanks to our amazing museum staff, bricks may now be ordered with more text, and with AMA graphics to highlight your memory.

Check out the new order form for all the details.

Right: Enrique Clement, '69, who resides in Panama, was surprised when his son Luis bought him a cap and mug from our online store and had them shipped to Panama.



Laura and Tommy Pressly, '67, with Diana and Mickey Toms, '67, at Loungin' Lizard patio in Cortez, Colorado, observing "social distancing" AMA and western style



The museum staff are constantly thinking of new ways to make more information about our collection more readily available to visitors and to the public via our website. Sometimes just looking at an artifact and a brief note on the wall next to it is just not enough. QR codes to the rescue. Now QR codes are included in the description of three artifacts located in the foyer of the museum. By scanning these codes with your smart phone camera, you will be taken directly to our website's page with complete information about that item.







We need your help! And no, I'm not asking for money.

We need your current contact information in order to keep our lines of communication open. If you got this Bayonet in the mail, we obviously already have your mailing address. But if you read the Bayonet on-line we need your mailing address. If this is the last printed Bayonet, we still want to maintain contact with you. So we also need a good telephone number and email to reach out to you. This information will also help classmates get in touch with each other when they contact the museum to find old friends.

So please, do us the kindness of sending your contact information to museum@AMAalumni.org.

We do not share any of this information with anyone outside of our organization, or for commercial use.

From **Lew Mundin, '53** via email:

"Enjoyed so much the recent Bayonet. Good job to all involved. I'm doing fairly well at 84 and still swimming here in condo complex I think my classmate Jay Fox doing same at his retirement home, both '53. He to gain honors at AMA.

"I recall my father [**Lewis H Mundin, Jr.**] '27 was asked by Maj. Roller ('49, '50?) to try and get alumni together and active in support to school. He wrote to many and unfortunately all letters [disappeared] when he died. He loved the school!"

Both Lew and his father are members of the Ad Astra Society. His father was in the second class to be inducted in 1926, and Lew was inducted in 1953.

I came across the following in the 1943 AMA Catalog:

The Mundin Scholarship

As a memorial to his father and desiring to assist worthy boys in securing an education, Lewis H. Mundin, Jr., of Richmond, Virginia, who graduated from the Augusta Military Academy in June, 1927, has established a perpetual scholarship valued at \$250 to be awarded annually to some deserving boy. The award will be made on the basis of scholastic ambition, good sportsmanship and financial need, and will be awarded only to boys who have spent at least one year at the Academy.



1953 RECALL

Lew was an eight year cadet and graduated as Ordinance Captain on Staff, Varsity Football Manager, Fencing, Orchestra, Student Body Officer, Baseball

Lew is currently enjoying his golden years in Richmond and is a staunch supporter of all things AMA.



Spotlight on Warren Fleming, '72

by B.J. d'Orsay

Warren Fleming attended AMA for just one year, the 1971-1972 school year. That was just the second year that African-American young men were admitted into AMA.

While at AMA, Warren was an outstanding football player, and also played basketball. He was inducted into the AMA Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

He has lived his life to the fullest, risen to amazingly high ranks within the corporate Information Technology world, and believes in giving back to his community.

Warren is serving on our Fundraising Committee, providing his expertise to the Foundation in the area of grant acquisition.

I recently interviewed Warren via email about how AMA has affected the outcome of his life, so far.

Could you talk briefly about how your time at AMA prepared you for your life and your many accomplishments?

"I was accepted at AMA for my athletic abilities but I quickly learned that I had other marketable skills to offer. During my early years, I wasn't in (nor interested in) the many aspects of opportunities that America had to offer. While attending AMA, I was exposed to many concepts such as government opportunities, minority business set-aside opportunities, political awareness, the awareness of other minority citizens and learning their culture, developing interpersonal and humanitarian skills, and, most importantly, the ability to maintain self discipline. These attributes provided me with the skills I needed to achieve a successful career."

You state in your bio that you attended AMA "to avoid the integration and civil rights issues of the time." Could you expand on that thought?

"I could write a book about the integration and civil rights processes because I survived America's legal segregation system. However, coming to AMA I found myself surrounded by other non-African American cadets who had also experienced some sort of disparity in their life that they had to overcome. AMA was made up of students from many different

cultures and this provided me insight into the true makeup of America. I noticed that I was no longer looked on as an African American but as a Cadet that was part of a brotherhood. This brotherhood prepared me with the communication skills I would later need to relate with upper management while I was climbing the corporate ladder. Once I left corporate America, I became very effective in selling Information Technology and Vertical Transportation services as a minority vendor. My father once told me that unless I understood how to communicate with other cultures, my possibilities of success would be very limited."

Would you like to make any comments about the current racial and political climate in the US?

"The current racial and political climate makes me very nervous because as I stated above. I'm a survivor of the American legal segregation system. Unlike the racial Civil Rights issues of the sixties, it has become obvious that today's racism is also targeting other minority cultures. It is a foregone conclusion that the racial issues between the Blacks and Whites have had the highest volume of attention and activities over the years. I have often wondered if things would have been better between the Black and White races if President Abraham Lincoln's Reconstruction Act had been allowed to be fully implemented. What really got my attention at AMA is when I put on my cadet uniform I was protected by the White and Brown cadets along with the AMA Staff. This concept proved to me that racism can be expunged if we are all working towards a common goal."

How did sports at AMA help you, and how were you affected by your induction into our Sports hall of Fame?

"AMA recruited me for my athletic skills but I received more than I bargain for once I became an AMA Cadet. This recruitment taught me the skills to integrate with a diverse group of students along with AMA staff members to become part of a brotherhood. Receiving the Football Hall of Fame Award achievement is more than an honor, it's a blessing, and I was nominated by Coach Joe Josephson for this prestigious award."





Warren Fleming, '72, President of QST, Inc was honored as one of the Top100MBE's for 2019 from a list of over six thousand minority businesses from DC, Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and North Carolina. The award, given by Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council, recognizes incredible men and women who positively impact our economy, their respective industries, and serve as a catalyst in the growth and development of minority businesses.

Since moving to Damascus, MD, you've become very active in your community. Could you talk about your motivation to do this?

"My family members were very active in the community because they too learned how to survive during segregation. They started an activist committee group back in 1930 which included the busing of Black kids, equal pay for black teachers, and equal accommodations for Black schools. The two main leaders of this organization in 2001 were in their eighties and it became obvious to them that new leadership was needed. I was asked to revise and headup this organization and I made the necessary arrangements and renamed the organization to the **Damascus Connection Committee**. I (along with my family members and committee members) met and started supporting many of the elected officials in Annapolis. This relationship allowed me to create the first community effort project between the Black and White races. I created a community committee called the **Damascus Heritage Society** and together we installed the first museum in Damascus, Maryland. The museum's purpose is to highlight and maintain the preservation and history of the White and Black families in Damascus, Maryland. I was able to convince our state elected officials to nominate and pass a \$250,000.000 Bond bill for seed monies in the effort for startup expenses."

Any other comments you'd like pass on to our alumni?

"I want to thank the AMA Administration and Foundation for welcoming and recognizing the African American Cadets as being part of the AMA brotherhood in a special 2005 ceremony. My greatest blessing is the bond I have between myself and my 1972 Football Teammates. Over the past years I have bonded with so many other cadets and we often talk about the racial disparities we endured then and how these disparities are still very much alive today. We sometime agree to disagree with each other's opinions but we always respect the brotherhood code of honor that we established at AMA. I read in an article once that Major General Charles Summerville Roller Jr. mission was to build an institution that would allow a young man to be all he can be. This mission lives in me and the many cadets that attended this institution."

I have known Warren Fleming, '72, since September of 1971. Warren was one of the small group of young men that hold the distinction of being the first African Americans to enroll at AMA.

I was the Corps Executive Officer that year so my interaction with the individual cadets was limited to drills and room inspections, but I do remember him as a very good football and basketball player. Warren also worked in the mess hall as a Cadet Waiter. Warren was a quiet cadet but was well respected by his Cadet Corps mates because of his ferocity and tenacity on the playing field.

I got to know Warren a little better many years after our graduation in 1972 when he, along with several other of his African American classmates, attended an Alumni reunion around 2011. That was the year that Warren was enshrined into the AMA Sports Hall of Fame.

A few years later, I was able to spend several hours and a nice lunch with Warren and his wife in San Juan just before they set off on a Caribbean Cruise. Warren and I engaged in a conversation that took us to North Carolina where Warren was raised in a humble home. We talked about the racism and segregation he and all Black folks endured in that part of the country.

So, I was amazed at what he told me about his first day at AMA.

Like most of us, Warren was a little intimidated his first day at Augusta. Big Barracks, the uniform line, where he was issued several Confederate Grey uniforms, and when he visited Benny the Barber who took great pleasure in removing all of the hair off your head in under 15 seconds!

Warren then admitted something to me that I will always consider an "uh-huh" moment in my life. He said "Doug, when I put on the uniform and walked out to my first formation, I suddenly felt something I had never felt in my life. I realized that for the first time in my life, I was surrounded by a bunch of white kids and I felt that I belonged there and was equal to all of them! The fact that everyone was wearing the same uniform and the authority figures were all white but wore rank that they had earned, made sense to me. It soon became obvious to me that if I did what I was told, shined my shoes, and came to formation on time, nobody would give me a hard time, and that rigor was distributed evenly amongst ALL the cadets, no matter what race or religion."

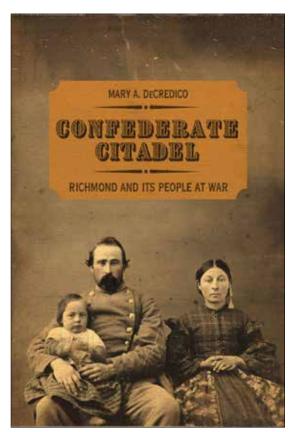
Warren credits AMA with his successes moving forward in life. He realized for the first time in his life that if you worked hard and followed your leaders' orders, you will do well, regardless of your skin color.

I tell that story to many people. I can not imagine what it is like to be hated just because of your skin color. Warren Fleming and his fellow pioneering African American Cadets are some of the success and inspiring stories that we as AMA Alumni should be proud of. I sure am!

Moving Forward nearly 50 years. Warren is active on the Foundation Board Fundraising Committee. I can assure you that the grit and determination that got him through AMA and life successfully, is being used by him today to help preserve our AMA Legacy!

Douglas W. Pennock '72

14 Fall 2020 The Bayonet 15



Dr. Mary A. DeCredico, Professor of History at the U.S. Naval Academy and Board member (non-voting) of our Foundation, has written a new book this Spring, entitled Confederate Citadel. It tells of life in Richmond for the wives and families of Confederate soldiers during America's Civil War. The book is available from smile.amazon.com



Charles Bayless, '32, was such a talented artist, his drawings were presented throughout the 1933 RECALL



Uncle Sam and Chairman Doug Pennock are issuing a challenge to every active alumni to bring back AT LEAST ONE of your AMA classmates who has not recently attended, or perhaps never attended an Alumni Reunion weekend in the valley. We all know and stay in touch with classmates that have drifted away from the Reunions over the past decade. After the incredibly challenging events of 2020, it is time to re-kindle the timeless connections we have with each other and our alma mater. Together, we can help make the Spring 2021 Reunion the biggest and most successful gathering in more than a decade, but we need your engagement, action, and commitment. There are many new exciting developments in the works for our team, but more than anything, alumni return to spend time with the folks with whom they shared the most formative years of their youth. Please take the pledge to **FIND YOUR ONE** (or more) and join us in the Valley in April of 2021.

WHO IS YOUR ONE?

AMA misses Headmaster, master teacher

Reprinted from 1970 RECALL



BACK IN THE '30's when Col. McCue was returning to AMA after his graduation from U.Va., he had Andy McClung of Andre's taking RECALL pictures.

Cyrus McCue

Close friends had noticed that Col. lohn Cyrus McCue, |r. had lost some of his vim and drive. When school opened, students learned that Col. McCue was ill and would be on leave for three months.

When the news came in mid-October that Col. McCue had died, it was a shock.

Quiet, yet with a sense of humor which was dry and sensitive; studious, but never overbearing, Col. McCue made people love him by his manner, his cool disposition, and by his great love for his family.

Headmaster for only 5 years, he had been a member of the faculty since his graduation from Virginia. His degrees were in math, and he taught trigonometry and algebra with an ease which tickled his scores of boys.

During World War II he became a major in the Army and was so valuable that he taught classes at Fort Leavenworth during the summers until recent years.

How he loved sports! He coached boxing when boxing was in style, and he watched with pride and love when his son,)oe, was valedictorian here and then captain of football at Randolph Macon. Now he is gone.

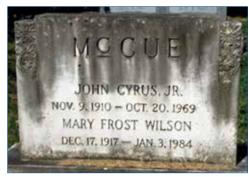
COL. J. C McCUE, Jr.
Headmaster
B.S., M.S. The University of Virginia;
Advisory Board; Mathematics.



Born Nov 9, 1910
Died Oct 20, 1969
Buried in Augusta Stone Church
Cemetery, Ft. Defiance, VA.
Married to Mary Frost Wilson
Born Dec 17, 1917
Died Jan 3, 1984
AMA Class of 1927
Appointed to AMA Faculty 1938



ONE OF THE LAST cadets to receive a diploma from Col. McCue was Ron Ginns who had taken two classes in mathematics from him. The diploma has meaning.



Along with many other people associated with AMA, John Cyrus McCue, Jr. is buried in the Old Stone Church ceremony.

"What is often learned in the classroom may be rapidly forgotten, but those intangible qualities of personal integrity, reliability, cooperation, self-control, appreciation of true values, tolerance, courtesy, and the will to go forward are traits which Augusta hopes to instill in each boy in his preparation for life. Everything a man possesses may be swept away by the tides of fortune, but never will anything destroy a man of character, a gentleman with a well-trained mind."

Charles S. Roller, Jr.



Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association

REUNION 2021 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Gentlemen,

Your AMA Reunion Committee has been working diligently since late April 2020 securing a new venue for our reunion hotel headquarters and organizing a new format and events for Reunion 2021. We are trying to do some new things and significantly improve in the overall quality of the reunion experience. In order to make it affordable for as many alumni as possible we are opening certain events for sponsorship opportunities to help offset some of the costs. Excess sponsorship donations will be rolled over to the AMA Foundation as a donation.

All Sponsors will be recognized at all events and venues.

Here are the events/needs and the sponsorship amounts we are seeking:

Event / Activity	Total Sponsorship Amount	Partial Sponsorship
Registration Desk	\$500	5 @ \$100
Friday BBQ/GROG Event	\$2,500	5 @ \$500
Sporting Events (2)	\$200	2 @ \$100
Historic Bus Tour	\$500	5 @ \$100
Saturday Formal Banquet	\$3,500	7 @ \$500
Lunch at Gymnasium	\$3,000	3 @ \$1,000 or 6 @ \$500
Friday Breakfast Soupy	\$600	6 @ \$100
Friday Lunch Soupy	\$500	5 @ \$100
Hospitality Room	\$1,500	3 @ \$500
Founder's Day Wreath	\$200	2 @ \$100
Corsages / Flowers	\$200	4 @ \$50

Please be generous and consider becoming a sponsor at whatever level you can afford.

To make your pledge, please contact:

Jorge Rovirosa '70 at <u>JOROVI@FAROVI.COM</u>
Garry Granger '71 at GARRYGBD@GMAIL.COM

More exact details about the reunion, along with costs and online registration will be available before the end of the year, so you can plan your trip to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley and return "home" to where we grew into manhood.

This information will be made available as soon possible via our monthly email newsletter, and on our website. If you do not currently receive our monthly newsletter, go to AMAalumni.org and near the bottom of the home page, click the button to sign up to receive them.

Marketing / Public Relations Committee Report

Members: Garry Granger, '71 (Chair), Steve Trent, '70, BJ d'Orsay, '70, Rich van Breemen

Mission: To market and create a positive awareness of AMA's museum, our history and our legacy to alumni, faculty, staff and friends, locally, nationally and internationally in an on-going effort to increase visitors, gain docents, find volunteers and raise contributions.

To date the Marketing / PR Committee has had eight Zoom meetings.

The committee assisted with the grand re-opening of the Museum after C-19 caused us to close for a few months. The committee recently updated the AMA slide/video presentation. This presentation was designed to share the history of Augusta Military Academy and the purpose of our Museum and Legacy. In 2018 it was presented to the Visitors Bureaus Directors of Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro and Augusta County. The presentation was presented to the Shenandoah Valley Kiwanis Club last year and in August 2020 the updated presentation was delivered to the Waynesboro Kiwanis Club via zoom conference. We were afforded 20 minutes, but because of interest and discussion, took 45 minutes. More presentations are forthcoming.

Identifying lists of local civic organizations, legislators, businesses, TV and Radio stations was completed early on, to help share our story and create awareness. We are in the process of developing two distinct marketing pieces to be emailed monthly to specific groups of alumni. The intent is to share a snap-shot of information and create engagement and action.

Our next focus is aimed at Reunion 2021, to help elevate attendance. We're also helping promote the Lost Alumni Committee's new program called "Who's Your One?" where alumni are asked to contact an AMA friend and bring him to the April 2021 reunion.

We are working diligently to magnify awareness of the history of Augusta Military Academy along with the purpose of our museum. We encourage you to send your ideas, engage in our effort to "spread the word," and do your part to volunteer, be a docent or financially contribute. The fact is, our youngest alumnus is in his mid to early 50's, there is no doubt that *now is the time to take action and preserve the Legacy of Augusta Military Academy.*

Foundation Board Election Committee Summary

Members: John Arthur '75 (Chair), Frank Williamson, '60, Gordon Metz, '68

In support of the Chairman's effort to expand the Alumni Foundation's activities, I volunteered to lead the Board's Election Committee. Two other gentlemen volunteered for the committee efforts: Frank Williamson '60, and Gordon Metz '68. The responsibilities of the Election Committee includes, but is not limited to: identifying Identify and discussing (vetting) candidates for the 2021 Foundation "Directors" positions; and organizing and executing the Board member election process.

I'll discuss some of our recent initiatives, to strengthen and expand alumni involvement into our Board electoral process.

Regarding our election procedures, we realized that during earlier/previous year's elections, on-site elections created some challenges regarding by-law established timelines, and other voting and "tallying" activities. Given these challenges, coupled with being "driven" to utilize other voting methods with the cancellation of the reunion, our recent April 2020 elections-by-digital submission realized some very positive results.

First, the nomination timelines and procedures were followed to the "T" and feedback by many highlighted overwhelming acceptance for the on-line digital voting processes. Voting went smoothly and vote submission security and verification worked very well. As a result, the Board realized a significantly increased number of involved alumni, as 132 votes were cast!

The Election Committee has recommended further discussion and consideration to change the by-laws to formalize digital on-line voting for future elections. This topic will be discussed during the next Board meeting.

The Election Committee is also looking at the overall Board composition. While we are seeking active alumni who are willing to provide their time, talents and their relationships/contacts to support the organization, there is general consensus amongst the

Committee members that the Board also consider non-alumnus candidates. Foundation By-laws Article II, Section 2.2, allows for "an invitation be extended by majority vote of the Board of Directors to those non-alumni whose interest in the school and its purposes shall be such that, in the thoughts of the Board, that individual is deserving of membership and voting eligibility".

We must plan, as best we can, for the future...marketing for longevity. This also includes seeking/considering individuals that are local (20-30 miles), who can also volunteer at the museum.

Lastly, the Board members listed below have terms ending in April 2021. Although they are eligible to volunteer and remain on the Board for another term, we will be opening the nomination window for Board member positions in the latter part of December. Nominations can be made no earlier than 90 days before Reunion 2021, and must be received no later than 30 days prior to Reunion 2021.

- B.J. d'Orsay, '70
- Gary Cripps, '71
- Doug Pennock, '72
- Ed Rogerville, '76

Please go the link provided to review **By-law Section 4.4.** which lists desired director support requirements for board members.

https://amaalumni.org/wp-content/uploads/Foundation-ByLaws.pdf

We are looking for candidates to build on our successes to date, and help us accomplish our Foundation goals and objectives.

The Election Committee is committed to ensuring our election processes are "by-law" compliant, fair and supportive of increased alumni participation. We welcome any/all comments on our processes and procedures.

Please provide feedback/comments to John Arthur '75, at john.arthur5@cox.net.



Applications are now being accepted for the McVey/Zinkan \$2,000 scholarship available for direct descendants of AMA Alumni for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Complete information and application can be found on our website at

https://amaalumni.org/scholarships/

Printed applications and accompanying materials must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2021.

Grand Reopening of Our Museum

July 24th, the Museum of Augusta Military Academy officially reopened to the public after several months of closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. During the 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM event, about 80 local visitors enjoyed free hamburgers, hot dogs, and refreshments while touring the museum and the exhibits which were setup on the black top. **Brett Thompson, '75**, manned the bbq grill, while **Steve Trent, '70, Gordon Metz, '68**, and others welcomed guests and provided tours of the museum and campus. Our museum staff provided a safe and clean environment and well conceived event for everyone. Many thanks go out to **Victor Gomez, '69**, and **Jim Belcher**, local historian and friend to AMA, for providing many photos of the event.



Gordon Metz.'68, models an AMA hat, which is from Jim Belcher's collection of Virginia military school memorabilia





above: Brett Thompson, '75, fires up the grill.

top right: several displays on the black top provided by **The Intermont Military Vehicle Club** and Jim Belcher

right: a vintage aircraft, also brought by The Intermont Military Vehicle Club

bottom right: Local musical group, the Windbags, set up on the museum porch and provided entertaining patriotic and historic music. Musicians are left to right: Audrey Bloomfield (our intern Ainsley's younger sister), Diane vanBreemen (Rich's wife in blue), Terry Doty (in red), and Debbie Fordham (has her back to camera).

left: This Fallen Soldier display was provided by museum curator **Rich vanBreemen**.







Friday's' Historic Tour, hosted by Frank Williamson, '60, takes us on a tour of the home of James Madison

Join us for a tour of our fourth President James Madison's home, Montpelier.

Our tour will depart the Blackburn Inn Friday morning.

Transportation, admission, and a deluxe box lunch is included in the \$45 cost.



AMA Sports Hall of Fame (SHOF) Committee Summary

Members: John Arthur '75 (Chair), Tom Del Valle, '73

In support of the increased emphasis to recognize deserving AMA varsity athletes, teams and Coaches, I volunteered to lead the Board's Sports Hall of Fame (SHOF) Election Committee. Tom Del Valle '73, also volunteered for the committee efforts. He is a current member of the AMA Sports Hall of Fame.

The responsibilities of the SHOF Committee includes, but is not limited to: identifying, receiving nominations and present candidates for the annual Sports Hall of Fame voting, and for subsequent induction, if voted-in; and organizing and executing the Sports Hall of Fame nomination and election process.

This is the third year overseeing the annual SHOF nomination and selection process. Each year, we have made changes and adjustments to the process based upon alumni feedback. First, the nomination packets have become detailed and structured, allowing voting members to have the same information to evaluate a candidate. Second, we seek current SHOF member volunteers to be the voting members. From feedback to date, the SHOF voting procedures work very well, established timelines and procedures were simplistic, allowing for ease of execution.

Last year, the individuals listed below were nominated and elected into the Class of 2020 AMA Sports Hall of Fame. Their formal induction ceremony was postponed due the Covid-19 restrictions causing cancellation of Reunion 2020. Their formal induction will occur during Reunion 2021.

- Maj (Ret'd) Edwin Hart
- George Richardson '64
- Charles R. Livick '77

We are requesting and encouraging that ALL current Sports Hall of Fame members attend the 2021 SHOF induction ceremony, in order to honor these gentlemen as well as the 2021 inductees (to be determined).

Please take the time to review the current roster of Sports Hall of Fame members and teams below. If you believe there is an individual, team and/or Coach that is deserving of consideration for selection into the AMA Sports Hall of Fame, please send an email to John Arthur and Rich VanBreeman (Museum Director) containing the individual's/team's/Coach's name, the specific sport, the year, as well as a brief description as to why he/they are deserving of the honor. **Nominations must be received no later than JANUARY 15, 2021!** And please provide feedback/comments to John Arthur '75 at john.arthur5@cox.net.



Meet Ainsley Bloomfield

Hello, I'm Ainsley Bloomfield, and I'm the new Charleton intern at the AMA Alumni Museum. I'm 20 years old, was born in Virginia, and live locally in Grottoes. When I was being homeschooled, history was my favorite subject. I plan on graduating in two years from Liberty University's online program. I'm majoring in Accounting because of its rigor, practicality, and versatility, but my greatest aspiration is to become an illustrator. My favorite media are ink and watercolor and I've self-published a book for the kindergarten age group. I am also active in my church, play piano, garden, hike, sew, and read. I was thrilled to get this job among fascinating artifacts and stories. Serving veterans, alumni, and the wider public is a great pleasure to me; respect for our country's great past is essential. I look forward to seeing you when you visit the Museum.



Steve Passero, '69, brought his family to the museum this summer and was given a tour by classmate and volunteer docent, Victor Gomez, '69.

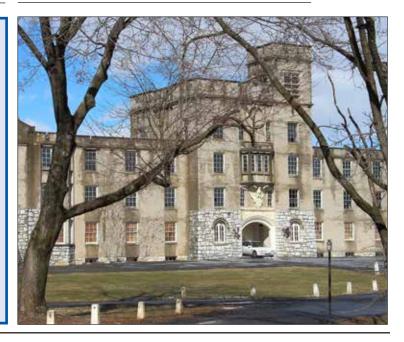


Joseph Bamberger, '71, visited museum visited our museum and was pleased to find his cadet photo in the 1971 RECALL.

If you've never visited our museum, or if it has been a while, I challenge each of you to visit in 2021.

I was out of touch for 26 years after graduating in 1970. I can still remember the pounding in my chest and the tears welling up as I topped the hill at the Old Stone Church and caught my first glimpse of barracks. It's a feeling I'll never forget.

I've been back many, many times since, even though it's a 3-day drive for me from West Texas. Sitting on the porch of the museum and reminiscing of the good times, along with the bad, is one of the highlights of my life in my latter years. $\sim \mathcal{B}.f.\ d'Orsay$



OOPS ... Our bad

Chuck Knapp, '72, was erroneously marked as deceased in our master database some time ago. When an online PX order came through earlier this summer from, of all people, Chuck Knapp, we did a little research and realized our mistake. We reached out to Chuck and below is his response.

Hey guys,

To quote Mark Twain..."The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated. "

This probably came about as in 2009 I had open heart surgery. It was a mechanical thing, not heart disease. They had to repair my heart valve. It was not replaced, just a little surgery, duct tape, and WD40. I'm almost as good as

new, and I'll take that. It's a lot more fun being on this side of the dirt.

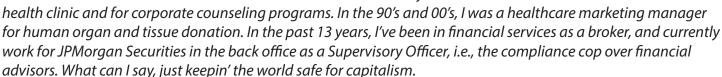
Lindy and I have been married coming up on 28 years this October. As you can see from the picture, I married up. We went to New Orleans for our 27th anniversary last year and that's where the pic (right) was taken. We actually were engaged in New Orleans and got to eat at the same restaurant we were engaged at, Mr B's on Royal St. The secret to our marriage is that I gave her a lot of drinks, asked to marry me, and haven't let her sober up since.

We have a daughter, Makenzie, who just graduated from The Ohio



State University with a degree in Arts Management. She has been a real blessing to us over the years. She is also a good musician (piano, singing) and composes her own music. At 22, she has grown into a great person. It's nice when your kid is also your friend.

I'm on my third career now. In the 80's, I was a counselor in a community mental

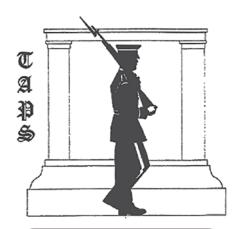


Ad Astra Per Aspera, Chuck, Class of 1973

At press time, the plan for reunion Golf is to tee up Friday morning at Ingleside. Green fees are expected to be \$32. **Paul Poluito, '73,** (cpp2q@virginia.edu) is the contact person for this event.







Please report deaths of **AMA Alumni**, Faculty and Friends to the **AMA Museum** P. O. Box 101 Fort Defiance, VA 24437 540-248-3007 Museum@AMAalumni.org

Morton Pilcher, '46

Morton Andrew "Morty" Pilcher, of Huntington, W.Va., died peacefully on March 1, 2018, at the Wyngate at Rivers Edge in Proctorville, Ohio. He was born on August 21, 1930, in



Huntington, W.Va., and was a lifelong resident of the city. Morty attended Augusta Military Academy in Fort Defiance, Virginia, and he was a graduate of Huntington High School and Marshall University. In 1952, he entered the United States Navy and served during the Korean War. Morty also served 10 years as a member of the Naval Reserve after the Korean War. He was an avid collector of auto license plates and a member of the Automobile License Plate Collectors Association. Morty touched the lives of people fortunate enough to know him with his humor, wit, kind spirit and positive outlook. He will always be lovingly remembered for his jokes, his kind heart and a life well-lived.

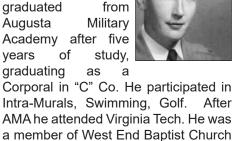
Clyde Ramsey, '49

Clyde Ramsey was a powerful force in rebuilding the AMA Alumni Association and helping build the AMA Museum. In 1994, Clyde underwrote the first AMA Legacy Scholarship. He and his wife were some of the first members of the Roller Society. When Jeanne passed away in 2006, she left a wonderful legacy for AMA in the form of a scholarship at Blue Ridge Community College. Clyde served on the Association Board of Directors many years, often as Secretary.

A fitting tribute to Clyde can be found on page 27 or the 2006 Summer Bayonet, available to read on our website.

Thomas Mac Saunders, '50

Thomas Mack Saunders Sr., 90, passed away on Aug. 2020. He 13, graduated Augusta vears of graduating as



Frank S. Tulloss, Jr., '51

for 55 years and a deacon emeritus.

Frank S. Tulloss, Jr. 86, of Fredericksburg, formerly of Stafford County, died peacefully on August 2020 in Spotsylvania, VA. He attended Falmouth High School where



he met his loving wife of 58 years, Shirley C. Tulloss, who preceded him in death in 2011. He attended Augusta Military Academy in Fort Defiance, VA. His passions were his family and working Braeburn Farm near Berea in Stafford County. He was a long time member of Hartwood Presbyterian Church in Fredericksburg.

It is with extreme sadness that I report the death of my brother, James C.D. Hume, class of 1957. Jim and his twin, Gray, were standouts on campus, both being company



commanders, both being Ad Astra (just like their younger brother, Bob, Class of 1963.

During his four years at AMA: Pvt., 1; SFC, 2; 1st Sgt., 3; Copt. 4; Football, 2, 3, 4; Swimming, 1-4; Lacrosse, 1; Cotillion Club, 1*4; Roller Rifles, 3, 4; Bayonet, 3, 4.

Donald Radford, '58

Donald Radford, age 80, of Geneva, New York, passed away on Friday, June 21, 2019.

Don attended Augusta Military Academy for three years, where he was



Pvt., 1; M/Sqt., 2; 2nd Lt., 3; Foot-boll, 1-3; Basketball, 1-3; Baseball, 1-3; Cotillion Club, 1-3; Honor Committee, 2, 3; Honor Roll, 1; Privilege List, 2, 3; Roller Rifles, 2, 3.

He served in the U.S. Army Reserves for six years. He so enjoyed his over 40 year career in sales at Goulds Pumps in Seneca Falls. Don loved being a salesman. Every customer became a friend and every opportunity for a sale was a challenge he relished.

Don was a collector of people, a founding member of the Elite Golf Club (later renamed the Rad Golf Club), a regular at the Tim Horton's coffee clutch, famous for giving away golf balls and golf shirts, lived in the best neighborhood in Geneva (surrounded by the best neighbors), a lover of Syracuse sports and the Yankees, a long time member of Seneca Lake Country Club and later Wayne Hills Country Club. He was a one-of-a-kind gentlemen. Always kind, generous, funny and always there for everyone.

Palmer Barton Weeks Sr., 79 of Orange City, Florida passed away on Thursday, January 16, 2020. He was born on March 11, 1940 in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was the Owner of



a Floor Refinishing business. During his two years at AMA, Palmer was Pvt., 1, 2; Wrestling, 1, captain, 2; Football, 1; Lacrosse, 1, 2; Cotillion Club, 1, 2.

James W. Yates IV, '58

James William Yates IV, died on Sunday, June 14, 2020.

Husband, father, father-in-law, "Papa," friend and teacher are words that come to mind when thinking of Jim Yates.



He was a selfless and loving provider for his family, which always was his priority.

Jim graduated from Augusta Military Academy, where he was Pvt., 1; Sgt., 2; 1st Sgt., 3; 1st Lt., 3; Capt., 4; Student Body Officer, 4; Honor Committee, 4; Baseball, 1; Baseball mgr., 2; Basketball, 2, 3; Rifle Team, 4; Ad Astra, 3, 4; Cotillion Club, 1-3; Treasurer, 4.

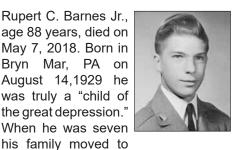
He later served as a Combat Specialist in the US Army at Fort Kobbe, Panama. In June of 1969, he was part of the Elia Building Company team that dewatered Niagara Falls, USA.

Jim taught English for 29 years at North Park Junior High School in Lockport, NY, where he served as the English Department Chair for many years.

Jim was a lifelong Red Sox and Bills fan and enjoyed photography, dancing, fishing, classical music, painting, family vacations and never met a hamburger he did not love!

A lover of poetry and English literature, to paraphrase John Donne's poem, "No Man is an Island" is most fitting, "No man is an island, apart to himself... so ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee".

Rupert C. Barnes Jr., age 88 years, died on May 7, 2018. Born in Bryn Mar, PA on August 14,1929 he was truly a "child of the great depression." When he was seven



Raleigh, N.C. where he spent most of his childhood. From an early age he demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit starting and running a variety of businesses. Rupert graduated from N.C. State and enlisted in the U.S.Navy. where he served as Lt. J G, Supply Officer during the Korean War. After the war he was hired by Milliken textile company based in Manhattan, where he worked for most of his career. He met his wife, Kathleen Bear on Bermuda Island. Rupert was an avid tennis player and continued to play into his eighties. He also enjoyed sailing and ice boating on the Shrewsbury River in New Jersey. He pursued an active social life at the Seabright Lawn Tennis and Cricket Club, Seabright Beach Club and later at the Tequesta Country Club in Tequesta, Florida.

At AMA, Rupert was a day boy, and a Private his one year.

Robert Stafford White, '60

details were No available at press time. Bob was a good friend of Board Member Frank **'60**, who Williamson, remembered his friend: "Bob was my



roommate, my football and lacrosse teammate, and fellow CW,

He and I tied for 2nd place behind Mike Stratton as Best New Cadet 1959.1960. We were in each others' weddings.

There are 3 things that can be spoken about Bob:

- 1) You always knew where you stood with him and he, with you,
- 2) His word was his bond
- 3) He had the patience of Job Sixty years of true friendship. "Rest well my friend". PAX".

Robert D. Gorgrant Jr. 75 died on August 24, 2020. Bob graduated from North High School where he was a 1962 Sun Bulletin Triple Cities basketball player. Following graduation,



he attended Augusta Military Academy for one year where he was the most Valuable Player of the Virginia Military League in 1962-1963. He was also designated Best New Cadet and was on the privilege list. In 2008 Bob was inducted into the first A.M.A. Sports Hall of Fame.

Bob earned a basketball scholarship to the University of South Carolina where he played for legendary coach Frank McGuire. After graduating he returned to A.M.A. where he taught history and coached the basketball team.

Bob returned to Binghamton in 1970 and was hired to teach 5th grade by the Vestal School District where he was also the Junior Varsity Basketball Coach and eventually led his team to a JV State Championship.

Beside basketball, Bob's other passion was golf. Although he didn't take up the sport until his early 20's, he soon became an excellent player - winning several local tournaments. However, his proudest accomplishment was playing at St. Andrews golf course in Scotland and shooting a 2 under par. Bob was not only a gifted athlete, but also a master gardener, which he demonstrated in the beautiful lush landscaping around their cottage home. As brother- in-law Randy Smith said, "Bob was not just a lover of nature, he was a force of nature." He also mastered the art of carving duck decoys and his works of art are displayed in the homes of many friends. In 2005 he won an award at a major decoy show.

Of all his accomplishments, Bob was most proud of his career as a teacher. He inspired in his students a love of nature and the outdoors. He didn't just have his students read about nature, but took them outdoors where they hung bird feeders, collected specimens and recorded observations in their

nature journals. Some of his former students have revealed that they still have their nature journals. Just as Bob inspired his students, Bob was inspired by the work of John James Audubon and his magnificent book "The Birds of America" and unfortunately, Bob also developed dementia as did Audubon in his later life. Audubon's dear friend John Bachman wrote in a letter to his wife in 1847 which said, "Alas, my poor friend Audubon! The outlines of his beautiful face and form are there but his noble mind is all in ruins. It is indescribably sad."

Allen Douglas Josey, '64

December 7, 2018 Allen Josey was my Honevcutt) (Grea (1960 roommate 1962). He was a member of the Roller Riders. Many great of memories our friendship at AMA.



At AMA: E Company; Pvt. 1; Sgt. 2; SFC 3; Baseball; Cotillion Club; (3rd year) p. 162.

Allen served in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam attaining the rank of 1st Lieutenant and received a Silver Star and 5 Purple Hearts.

He was service connected veteran who had been an accountant. He enjoyed reading, spending time with family (including the fourlegged children) and friends.

Thomas Matthews, '65

Thomas Mathews Austin Jr., 73, of Mechanicsville, died May 21, 2020. Before marriage, he served four years in the U.S. Air Force. After working for his father at B.T. Crump, he and



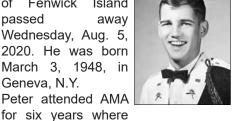
a friend started Northrun Saddlery, where he worked until 2017. There, he enjoyed selling equestrian equipment, attending shows and making friendships. He also enjoyed being with his buddies at Farrington Hunt Club and looked forward to deer hunting season each year. Going to

the farm in Hanover on weekends to cut grass or just hang out were important and brought enjoyment to

Thomas spent three years at AMA: Pvt., 1; Sgt., 2; Lt., 3; Roller Rifles 2, 3.

Peter P. Roenke,'66

Peter P. Roenke, 72, of Fenwick Island away passed Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020. He was born March 3, 1948, in Geneva, N.Y. Peter attended AMA



he Pvt., 1-3; Sgt., 4-5; M/Sgt,, 6; Mgr., Basketball, 3; Soccer, 5; Swimming, 6; Honor Roll, 1,2; Privilege List, 2-6; Roller Rifles, 6; Debate, 2.

After AMA he proudly and honorably served in the U.S. Army. He earned master's degrees in psychology and English, and owned and operated NAPCO Publishers in Virginia. 1980 Peter moved to Delaware, where he started Coastal Images Inc., a publishing and internet design and hosting company. An active member in the recovery community, he inspired and helped many people who were struggling. Above all, Peter cherished time spent with those he held most dear. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, brother, and friend who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Steven Fox, '68

Stephen Perry Fox, 70, of Cumming, GA, passed away on June 2020. 6. He graduated from high school at Augusta Military Academy where he was 1st Lieutenant 4:



RECALL. 3. co-editor, 4: Honor Committee. 4; Cotillion Club. 3, 4; Final Ball. 3. 4: Roller Rifles. 3. 4; Track. I; Swimming. 3; Tennis, 4.

He was a 1972 graduate from Furman University with a B.A. in Business Administration. He continued studies at University of South Carolina in

Accounting and Data Management in the Food Service Industry. Later he started his own company, "In Store Systems" that provided back office solutions for restaurants and other industries.

George Lee Reaves, '69

George Lee Reaves, Jr., 68, passed away on Friday, June 5, 2020. Mr. Reaves lifelong was resident of the In Peninsula. his youth. he was baptized at Orcutt Avenue Baptist Church.



A tribute to George, by good friend and classmate Steve trent:

George Lee Reaves class of 1969'. passed away on Friday, June 5, 2020, he was 69. Like many AMA Alumni, he proved to be one of a kind. A quiet and unassuming professional, who many folks would never take notice he was ever there. A guy who could always be counted on to come through for the AMA Alumni Association. At our annual reunions. George had various jobs to ensure our reunions were a success. He ran the Tower of Power and 50/50 and filled in for any other task asked of him. Not to mention he always wrote a substantial check each January to the Alumni Foundation.

George spent three years as a cadet at AMA and he was in Band Company where he played the bass drum. He was active with the Bayonet as an editor. George obtained the rank Sergeant his senior year. He had a dry sense of humor and loved to engage with Republicans like me in politics, since he was a union mediator. I will note that he would always patiently wait for me to say something and then strike!

George like others, stayed home to work in March. I spoke with him in early April and he told me he was having a lot of pain as well as trouble getting around. In May he went to Riverside Hospital initially for an MRI and once they had the results from the test he was immediately admitted and remained in the hospital for almost two weeks.

George was sent home with hospice and passed away within three days.

Even though George was a very private and quiet man, he will not be forgotten by his AMA Brothers or the folks he worked with. This is truly evident by the people in attendance at his grave side service.

Dwight Van Nitz, '74

Died August 2020. As of press time, no details were available. Dwight was the owner of "Fields of Glory", a Civil War souvenir store in G e t t y s b u r g , Pennsylvania.





KEMO SABE AND THE LAWN RANGER - Once again, Clyde Ramsey, '49, rides to the rescue. Above, he is presenting a brand new riding mower to Ben Zinkhan, '60, the Lawn Ranger. Thanks to both of you for keeping the campus looking neat! Every time there is a need, Clyde is there to help while challenging others to do likewise. And Gentle Ben does the work of ten men. We owe so much to both of them!

Reprinted from the Fall 2007 Bayonet

Fort Defiance Radio Interview

Submitted by Frank Williamson, AMA, '60

WLGF Radio Host: What is the name of the school that you attended? **AMA Alumnus:** Augusta Military Academy

WLGF Radio Host: Where is Augusta Military Academy located?
AMA Alumnus: It was founded in 1865 in Fort Defiance.
WLGF Radio Host: Which Fort Defiance would that be?

AMA Alumnus: *Is there another Fort Defiance?* **WLGF Radio Host:** *Yes, there are quite few ...*

Had this <u>hypothetical</u> interview actually taken place, a portal into the histories of numerous communities or establishments that have been called by the name, "Fort Defiance" will be opened.

A few of those sites form a listing with the oldest mentioned first and then listed according to first accepted dates (s) of existence,.

1740 FORT DEFIANCE, VIRGINIA: The Reverend John Craig established the Augusta Stone Church in an area now known as Fort Defiance. It was used as a meeting house for the Presbyterian members but also a haven during the French and Indian War. The official name Fort Defiance was not put on the community until the Mid-Nineteenth Century Interesting sites include the now defunct Augusta Military Academy (1865-1984), one of the first in the nation to adopt the JROTC program Wonderful, active museum on grounds. Top notch docents and it's free. Also, the original Augusta Stone Church (1749- present)

1794 FORT DEFIANCE, OHIO: Fort Defiance originally built by General "Mad" Anthony Wayne in August 1794 during the Northwest Indian War, at the confluence of the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers. General Wayne surveyed the land and declared, "I defy the English, Indians and all the devils of hell to take it." From Fort Defiance, the US forces moved along the Maumee River to fight the decisive Battle of Fallen Timbers. Those battles were fought against the Western Confederacy of the Miamis and Shawnees. That victory secured for the US the Northwest Territory, now the states of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. There are cannons and historical markers in front of the library overlooking the Maumee River, The outlined fort is now part of the city of Defiance, Ohio.

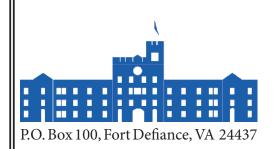
1836 FORT DEFIANCE, TEXAS: Fort Defiance was the name given by Colonel James W. Fannin Jr.to the La Bahia Presidio at Goliad Texas in 1836 when the fort was repaired and strengthened in preparation for the Mexican advance during the TEXAS Revolution. Here, outnumbered six to one, Colonel Fannin was forced to surrender to the Mexican forces and thought they would be treated as prisoners of war. After a few days the Texans thought they were being taken to the coast and left Fort Defiance signing "HOME SWEET HOME", the columns were halted and the accompanying guards opened fire and killed hundreds of men. Colonel Fannin who had been injured was still at Fort Defiance and asked that he be shot in the heart and have a Christian burial and that his prized timepiece be sent to his family. He was shot in the face, burned on flaming bonfire, the watch went to a Mexican officer. There are two magnificent memorials to those Texans at Goliad site. Also named "the 2nd Alamo".

1853 FORT DEFIANCE, (NEW MEXICO) NOW ARIZONA: Fort Defiance was established in September 1851by Col. Edwin Sumner to create a military presence in Navajo Territory, Sumner broke up the fort in Santa Fe for this purpose. This created the first military post in what is now Arizona. Fort Defiance was built on valuable grazing land that the federal government then prohibited the Navajo from using, As a result, the appropriately named fort experienced intense fighting, culminating in two attacks, one in 1856 and another in 1860, The next year, with the onset of the Civil War, the Army abandoned Fort Defiance. With continued raids, Kit Carson was sent to impose order. Today, US Government buildings (circa 1930) occupy the site and is home of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Navajo Nation.

1951 FORT DEFIANCE, THE MOVIE: United Artist Studios produced this "oater" in Cinemax and color. Starring Dane Clark, Ben Johnson and Peter Graves, the story of a former Civil War soldier bent on killing the man whose surrender got his brother killed. The hunter and the hunted join forces as a rancher wants to kill the same man and the pair have to fight their way across bloody Navajo Territory. It is a story of brotherly love and devotion.

This article is dedicated to the memory of my uncle, the late **Don Scott** of Houston, Texas. Upon traveling so many times to Texas on business, Don Scott would pick me up at the airport and take off for the entire day of Texas history and sites. Don would carefully weave the histories as if a storybook. Always included were the relevant points. Of course Don always made the time to take me bass fishing, and hunting for deer and geese. Of all the historical information that he gave me, it was proved later as 100% accurate. Thanks Uncle Don!

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit Organization Postage and Fees Paid Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation



Nominations are being sought for the Class of 2021 AMA Sports Hall of Fame (SHOF) inductees.

You may nominate an individual athlete, coach, team or anyone that you feel contributed in a significant way to AMA sports. Personnel / Team(s) selected will be recognized during Reunion 2021.

Please email your nomination to **John Arthur'75** email: <u>john.arthur5@cox.net</u> AND **Rich VanBreeman**, the Museum Director, email: <u>museum@AMAalumni.org</u>.

All nominations must be received *no later than* Sunday, January 17, 2021.



It wasn't that long ago that we filled the gym for the Reunion Saturday lunch. I challenge everyone reading this Bayonet to attend your reunion in April. You never know which might be the last reunion. So don't wait.

Bring a classmate with you!

Let's pull a prank on the Reunion Committee and overwhelm them.

If you've not been back to campus since you left school, shame on you! You need to experience the exhilaration of seeing your old home.